# The Art of Writing a Grant Application

An Overview

# The Major Do's of Grant Writing

Tell A Good Story

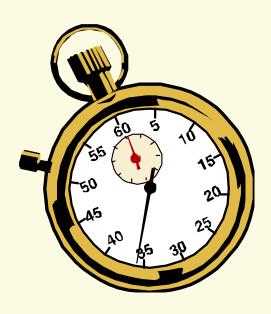
Tell A Good Story

Tell A Good Story



# Give Yourself Enough Time

- First submission from New Investigator
- (2 months)
- Senior Investigator
- (1 month)



# Preparing to Write

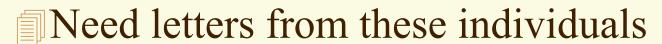


- Review preliminary results
  - Idenify basic conclusions
  - Impact of results on the field
  - Formulate hypothesis
- Begin an outline



#### Personnel

- Will you need additional expertise?
  - Consultants
  - Collaborators
  - Co-investigators

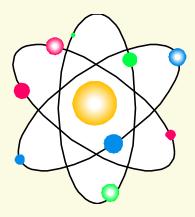


- Need their Biosketch
- Request early



## Special Permission

- IRBs for human studies
- Animal license for animal studies
- Permission to use hazardous compounds or infectious agents



## Refine Hypothesis

- State your overall "far-reaching" goals
- State the major idea to test
- Pose as an interesting question

## A. Specific Aims

- Major categories of experiments to test hypothesis
- Order of the aims important
- Risky to propose new animal models or cloning of a new factor

#### C. Preliminary Results Section

- Organize results according to Specific Aims
- Ideally should have some results for each aim
- Critical feasibility studies must be included

## D. Experimental Design and Methods

- Most important section
- Makes up half to 1/3 of 25 page grant
- No experiment is guaranteed
- Specific Sections (organized by Aim)
  - Rationale, Design, Expected Results,
    Limitations, Alternative approaches
- Experimental Design ≠ Methods
- **Time Line**

## B. Background and Significance

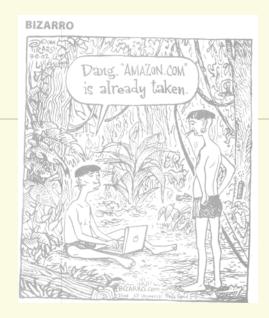
- Be succinct (3 pages)
- What is the essential information the reviewer needs to know to evaluate your proposal
- Organize around Aims
- Identify "gaps" in field of study
- Direct your "aims" towards filling those gaps

#### Abstract

- Specific areas included
  - Area of interest, Knowledge gap
  - Methods, Aims
  - Significance
- Word limitation
- Will be read by initial screeners
- Public access

#### The Title

- Broad
- Specific
- Note character limitations
- Targets grant to Institute, Study Section



#### Cover Letter

- Specify Study section
- Specify Institute

# Budget

- **Modular** 
  - Must state what personnel will be doing
- ■Itemized >250K
  - Not recommended for first submissions

#### Leave Enough Time to...

- Proof read
  - formatting
- Allow for computer glitches
- Generate copies
- Obtain institutional signatures
- Collaborator Letters